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Security Council

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Letter dated 11 May 2009 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

In my capacity as the Representative of the current Chairman of the African Union, I have the honour to forward to you the attached press statement issued by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its 187th meeting, held on 8 May 2009 in Addis Ababa, concerning the situation in Eastern Chad (see annex).

I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdurrahman **Shalgham**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
to the United Nations
Representative of the Chairman of the African Union

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Annex to the letter dated 11 May 2009 from the Permanent Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

[Original: English and French]

Press statement of the 187th meeting of the Peace and Security Council

Addis Ababa, 8 May 2009

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union, at its 187th meeting, held on 8 May 2009, received briefings by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Chad and the Commission on the incursions by armed elements in Eastern Chad and the situation on the ground.

The Council strongly condemned the attacks perpetrated on 4 May 2009 by armed groups in Eastern Chad. In this regard, the Council reaffirmed the rejection and condemnation by the African Union of any destabilization attempt and unconstitutional change of Government.

The Council endorsed the communiqué issued by the Chairperson of the Commission on 5 May 2009 on the situation in Eastern Chad and welcomed the efforts that he continues to deploy, as well as those of the current Chairperson of the African Union.

The Council expressed its serious concern about the deterioration of the situation, deeply regretted the loss of lives and made an urgent appeal for the cessation of hostilities.

The Council noted with regret that this escalation has occurred after the agreement between the Sudan and Chad, reached in Doha on 3 May 2009, as part of efforts to contribute to the normalization of relations between the two countries.

The Council requested strict respect for the commitments made and for the relevant principles of the African Union, particularly non-interference and good neighbourliness, so that the region can overcome the current difficulties and persevere in the search for peace, stability and security. The Council demanded that the States of the region take, without delay, the necessary steps to prevent their territories from being used by armed groups involved in criminal and destabilization activities.

The Council agreed to meet again for further consideration of the situation and the relations between the Sudan and Chad.